

U.S. Department of Labor

Assistant Secretary for
Employment and Training
Washington, D.C. 20210



The Honorable John Hoeven
Governor of North Dakota
State Capitol
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Department 101
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0001

Dear Governor Hoeven:

It is with pleasure that I respond to the State of North Dakota's request for an extension of a Workforce Investment Act (WIA) waiver of the time limit on the period of initial eligibility of training providers at 20 CFR 663.530. This action is taken under the Secretary's authority to waive certain requirements of WIA Title I, subtitles B and E and Sections 8-10 of the Wagner-Peyser Act.

The State of North Dakota's request (copy enclosed) indicates that it continues to experience difficulty in the collection of performance data from training providers. According to the state, a waiver extension would provide the state additional time to develop an effective data collection and reporting process, and continue to offer the broadest choice of training providers to its customers.

The waiver is written in the format identified in WIA Section 189(i)(4)(B) and 20 CFR 661.420(c) and appears to meet the standard for approval at 20 CFR 661.420(e). Accordingly, the State of North Dakota is granted an extension of this waiver through June 30, 2005, with an effective date of July 1, 2004.

The granted waiver extension is incorporated by reference into the state's WIA Grant Agreement, as provided for under paragraph 3 of the executed Agreement, and also constitutes a modification of the state's approved five-year strategic plan. A copy of this letter should be filed with the state's WIA Grant Agreement and the state's approved five-year strategic plan, as appropriate.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with you and achieving better workforce investment outcomes. We are prepared to entertain other state and local-level waiver requests that you may wish to submit, consistent with the provisions of the WIA statute and regulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Emily Stover DeRocco", is written over a horizontal line.

Emily Stover DeRocco

Enclosure